

State of Louisiana



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

SCOTT A. ANGELLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

June 22, 2006

Mr. Chris C. Oynes
Regional Director
Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

Re: MS 5400, Lease Sale 200

Dear Mr. Oynes:

Governor Blanco has directed me to respond to your June 21, 2006 letter replying to her June 14, 2006 letter notifying the Minerals Management Service (MMS) that proposed Lease Sale 200 is not consistent with the enforceable policies of the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program and, therefore, objecting to MMS's Consistency Determination on the proposed Lease Sale.

We appreciate your willingness to meet with the Governor or Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) staff to review the Consistency Determination and address the Governor's concerns. As you know, these concerns are set forth in detail in the June 14 letter, and in other comments and recommendations that the Governor and other State officials have provided to MMS with respect to the proposed Lease Sale. As such, please confirm that the purpose of such a meeting would be for officials of the United States Department of the Interior to present to Louisiana officials proposals for addressing the concerns of the State, with respect to, among other issues, the environmental analysis of the federal government, the federal government's Consistency Determination, the timing of the proposed Lease Sale, and ensuring appropriate mitigation to address impacts to Louisiana's coastal resources and communities.

Presuming that this is the intent, we would look forward to meeting with you and other appropriate officials of the Department. Given the importance of these issues to Louisiana and to the MMS, we would suggest that this meeting include high level officials of both the State and the U.S. Department of the Interior and the MMS, such as Secretary Kempthorne or Director Burton.

Very truly yours,

Scott A. Angelle
Secretary

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